

STATE ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN
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PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Some County Probate Court records are of value to genealogists. Estate files may contain the name of spouses, siblings, and children as well as information about the estate. The following records are in the State Archives unless otherwise indicated.

ESTATE CASE FILES

This series of records may include: Petition for the appointment of administrator of estate; order for hearing of petition to settle estate; bond of executor or administrator; order granting power of letter of administration; letters of administration; published notice of estate together with sworn statement of publisher; order for appointment of guardian; guardian's bond; petitions for appointment of guardian; report of sale of real estate; "letters testamentary" requesting inventory of goods, chattels, rights, credits and real estate of deceased; statements of monies due; contracts; petitions for determination of heirs; certificate of probate of will; will; petition for license to sell real estate; administrator's license to sell real estate; appraiser's warrant; confirmation of sale; bond on sale of real estate; receipts for probate fees; claims for payment of bills; receipts; commissioner's warrant and report of claims presented, examined and allowed; occasional letters; discharge of administrator; record of obligation of guardianship for minors and heirs of estate with petitions for appointment; letters granting authority; and bond of the appointed guardian. Some cases may be missing. Arranged numerically, unless noted otherwise.

<u>County</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates/Arrangement</u>	<u>Record Group</u>	<u>Regional Depository</u>
Alpena	1872-1904 (Microfilmed)	RG 80-126	
Barry	ca. 1860-1873; 1879-1913	RG 67-38; 68-15 RG 71-143	Western Michigan University Western Michigan University
Cheboygan	1858-1901 (Microfilmed. Indexed alphabetically by surname.)	RG 80-97	
Eaton	1838-1900 (Arranged numerically)	RG 80-73	
Genesee	1852-1883 (Selected Cases)	RG 71-37; 75-86	
Ingham	1839 ca. (Arranged numerically)	RG 92-429	
Ionia	1837-1869 (Partially indexed alphabetically by surname.)	RG 78-67	
Livingston	ca. 1895-1905 (Missing all adoptions, 1897-1899; arranged chronologically.)	RG 67-90; 71-164;	

		RG 75-12	
Macomb	ca. 1825-1869 (Arranged alpha by surname.)	RG 77-112	
Mecosta	ca. 1870-1938 (Selected cases)	RG 72-45	
Monroe	1804-1873 (Arranged alphabetically)	RG 71-138; 72-44	
St. Clair	1828-1872	RG 78-65	
Van Buren	1848-1912 (Microfilmed. Indexed alphabetically by surname.)	RG 68-28	Western Michigan University
Wayne	1797-1901 (Arranged alphabetically)	RG 85-35	

Other Probate Court Records may also be of value. More information about the contents of each series can be obtained by visiting the State Archives or the cited depository where the records are on deposit.

BERRIEN COUNTY (Western Michigan University)

Includes proceedings of the Probate Court, 1832-1838 **RG 67-109**;
Index to Insane Citizens, 1858-1916; 1919 (Restricted) **RG 67-109**.

HILLSDALE COUNTY

Contains a Record of Wills, 1865-1952 **RG 69-81**.

HURON COUNTY

Includes records relating to Probate of Estates of Deceased Persons, 1865-1886 **RG 67-93**; Journal of Probate Court, 1880-1898 **RG 67-93**.

INGHAM COUNTY

Includes case files numbered 1-5026 with some files missing **RG 92-429**.

IONIA COUNTY

Includes Probate Journals, 1837-1895 **RG 78-67**; Petitions to probate Deceased Estates, 1858-1865 **RG 76-67**; Orders of Determining Heirs, 1917-1954 **RG 78-67**; Records of Wills, 1866-1917, 1923-1969 **RG 78-67**; Petitions for Assignment of Dower and Reports of Commissioners in Dowers, 1864-1906 **RG 78-67**; Petitions for Partitions and Reports of Commission in Partition, 1867-1905 **RG 78-67**; Orders to Sell Real Estate at Public Sale and Orders Confirming Sale, 1858-1916 **RG 76-67**; Licenses to Sell Real Estate at Private Sale and Orders Confirming Sale, 1896-1969 **RG 78-67**; Abstracts of Taxable Inheritances, 1899-1966 **RG 78-67**; Orders for Disposition of Widows Pensions, 1887-1903, 1915-1925 **RG 78-67**; Orders for Admission of Dependent and Neglected Children to State Public School, 1885-1904 **RG 78-67**.

KALAMAZOO COUNTY

Record Group 94-309 contains fourteen series of probate records between 1833-1984. Individual case files are

restricted due to the inclusion of vital records and adoption records. Housed at Western Michigan University. **RG 94-309.**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Includes Probate Court Record Books (Estate Cases), 1855-1898 **RG 75-12.**

MACOMB COUNTY

Consists of Probate Court Calendar, 1849-1905 **RG 80-95.**

MECOSTA COUNTY

Records include Journals of the Probate Court, 1860-1893, 1901-1917 **RG 72-45**; Records of Probate of Wills, 1887-1910 **RG 72-45**; Index to Estate in Probate, n.d. **RG 72-45.**

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Records of Proceedings, 1828-1838 **RG 79-48.**

VAN BUREN COUNTY (Western Michigan University)

Includes Record of Guardianship, 1845-1867 **RG 68-28**; Proceedings In Dower, 1847-1878 **RG 68-28**; Journal of Probate Court, 1846-1867 **RG 68-28.**

**DUE TO THE CONTENT AND ARRANGEMENT OF PROBATE COURT RECORDS,
RESEARCHERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO VISIT THE STATE ARCHIVES IN ORDER TO
EXAMINE THE FILES.**